



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/673,897	01/05/2001	Bichot Guillaume	PF980020	7113

7590 09/26/2003

Joseph S Tripoli  
Thomson Multimedia Licensing Inc  
PO Box 5312  
Princeton, NJ 08540

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, VAN H

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2126

DATE MAILED: 09/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/673,897

Applicant(s)

GUILLAUME ET AL.

Examiner

VAN H NGUYEN

Art Unit

2126

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 6. 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to the application filed March 01, 2001 and preliminary amendment A filed October 23, 2000. Claims 1-10 are presented for examination.

#### *Specification*

2. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because the abstract appears to be written as if it were a claim and is not narrative inform. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Appropriate correction is required.

3. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout for the specification of a utility application. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

#### *Arrangement of the Specification*

As provided in 37 CFR 1.77(b), the specification of a utility application should include the following sections in order. Each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underlining or bold type, as a section heading. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) TITLE OF THE INVENTION.
- (b) CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS.
- (c) STATEMENT REGARDING FEDERALLY SPONSORED RESEARCH OR DEVELOPMENT.
- (d) INCORPORATION-BY-REFERENCE OF MATERIAL SUBMITTED ON A COMPACT DISC (See 37 CFR 1.52(e)(5) and MPEP 608.05. Computer program listings (37 CFR 1.96(c)), "Sequence Listings" (37 CFR 1.821(c)), and tables having more than 50 pages of text are permitted to be submitted on compact discs.) or

Art Unit: 2126

REFERENCE TO A "MICROFICHE APPENDIX" (See MPEP § 608.05(a).

"Microfiche Appendices" were accepted by the Office until March 1, 2001.)

(e) BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.

(1) Field of the Invention.

(2) Description of Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

(f) BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.

(g) BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING(S).

(h) DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION.

(i) CLAIM OR CLAIMS (commencing on a separate sheet).

(j) ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE (commencing on a separate sheet).

(k) SEQUENCE LISTING (See MPEP § 2424 and 37 CFR 1.821-1.825. A "Sequence Listing" is required on paper if the application discloses a nucleotide or amino acid sequence as defined in 37 CFR 1.821(a) and if the required "Sequence Listing" is not submitted as an electronic document on compact disc).

*Claim Objections*

4. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities:

"the process" (claim 1, line 2) should be "the method"

Appropriate correction is required.

*Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by **Boyles et al.** (U.S. 5,511,208).

**As to claim 1**, Boyles teaches (abstract) a method for the distributed management of a catalogue of objects (*resources*) in a communication network (*a computer network*) comprising devices (*multiple cache server nodes, network nodes*), the process comprising the steps of:

- registering local objects present in a device in a local registry managed at the level of this device (*a local directory for storing resource records for resources*; col.5, lines 4-10);
- formulating, by a local object, a request for a list of objects, the request being transmitted to the single local registry of the device hosting the local object (*When a LOCATE request is received by a cache server node serving the node originating the request, the origin cache server node first searches its local resource directories for an entry defining the location and characteristics of the target resource*; col.2, lines 55-65/*Initially, the origin cache server node searches its directory of local resources in operation 58*; col.5, lines 46-59);
- propagating the request through the local registry to distant registries (*If the requested resource is not a local resource...the LOCATE request is then directed in an operation 66 to a selected gateway node to permit searches for the resource in adjacent networks*; col.5, line 46-col.6, line 34);
- collecting the responses to the request by the distant registries and the response of the local registry; and transmitting the responses collected to the local object having formulated the initial request (*since a LOCATE request directed to multiple equivalent cache server nodes is likely to result in multiple replies, the origin cache server node continues to process replies*

*received from those nodes even while attempting to verify resource information about a resource outside a cache server node domain...a reply containing the necessary information is returned to the requesting node in an operation 114; col. 8, lines 11-65/the results are cached in the cross-domain directory of the origin cache server node in operation 214; col.9, lines 26-49).*

**As to claim 2,** Boyles teaches a local registry comprises for each object registered therein an identifier of this object in the network, this identifier being unique for the network; as well as attributes of the object (col.5, lines 4-25).

**As to claim 3,** Boyles teaches the identifier comprises an identifier of the device in which the object is present, this device identifier being unique in the network, as well as of a local identifier unique to this object at the level of the device (col.5, lines 4-25).

**As to claim 4,** Boyles teaches a type of request formulated by an object is a request comprising at least one selection criterion pertaining to an object attribute (col.2, lines 55-65 and col.5, lines 46-59);

**As to claim 5,** Boyles teaches an object is an attribute stored by a local registry in respect of the object (col.5, lines 4-25).

**As to claim 6,** Boyles teaches the step of propagating a request comprises the step of determining the devices connected to the network which themselves comprise a registry (col.5, lines 4-25).

**As to claim 7,** Boyles teaches the step of determining the devices comprises the determination of the types of the devices present in the network, the type of a device indicating whether it hosts a registry or whether it does not host one (fig. 4A).

**As to claim 8**, Boyles teaches a type of request formulated by an object is a request comprising selection criteria for at least two lists of objects, as well as at least one operator for processing the lists (fig. 5).

**Claim 9** is directed to a device for performing the method of claim 1, and is similarly rejected under the same rationale.

**As to claim 10**, Boyles teaches means for determining the addresses of devices of the network comprising so-called distant registries (col.5, line 46-col.6, line 34).

### *Conclusion*

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Mellen-Garnett et al.	US 6507875	issued date: 01/2003
- Sugauchi et al.	US 5828842	issued date: 10/1998
- Wanderer et al.	US 5491796	issued date: 02/1996

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to VAN H NGUYEN whose telephone number is (703) 306-5971. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:30AM - 6:00PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternative Friday.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9000.

Application/Control Number: 09/673,897

Page 7

Art Unit: 2126

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:**

**Commissioner for Patents**

**PO Box 1450**

**Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**or fax to:**

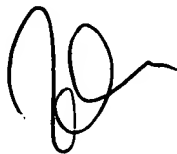
(703) 746-7239 (for formal communications intended for entry)

(703) 746-7238 (for After Final communications)

(703) 746-7240 (for informal or draft communications)

VHN

September 16, 2003



JOHN FOLLANSBEE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100